

Serial No. 10/042,532
Filing Date: January 9, 2002

Customer No. 26,289

Remarks

The Examiner has objected to claims 7, 10, 21, 24, 36 and 37 under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11-13, 14-20, 22, 23, 25-27, 29-35, 38-40, 42-47 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Sato et al. Claims 14, 28 and 41 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Yamashita. Further, the Examiner has stated that claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in an independent form. The rejection over Urano has been removed as stated by the Examiner in the Interview Summary Fax of February 19, 2004.

A petition to extend the time for response by 2 months is enclosed.

Claim 1 has been amended to include a polymer comprising at least one unit with an acid labile group and at least one unit with an absorbing chromophore, where the absorbing chromophore is selected from hydrocarbon aromatic moieties with one ring and heterocyclic aromatic moieties with one ring, as disclosed on page 11, lines 4-5. Sato discloses that the absorbing chromophore is a polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon group, column 20, lines 52-65. Sato does not disclose absorbing chromophores which are monocyclic aromatics or heteromonocyclic aromatics.

Claim 4 has been canceled and rewritten in an independent form as a new claim 48. New claims 48-59 have been added. No new matter has been added.

As the total number of claims does not exceed the number of claims originally paid for, no fee is believed due. However if an additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 03-2060.

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In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration of it is requested. If the Examiner disagrees, he/she is requested to contact the attorney for Applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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